

essential is character. The man behind the guns is more than the guns. The people must believe in the personal goodness of the man who breaks the bread of life to them. Learning, native ability, and eloquence are elements of power, but all these pale into insignificance in the absence of character. A man with moderate ability, backed by an unimpeachable character, and filled with the Holy Ghost may achieve phenomenal success, while the man with superior ability and divided heart is doomed to failure.

Today the world needs as never before a "called and separated" ministry, men with spiritual vision undimmed with unselfishness and secularity, who are willing to live the truth, and then with lips purified with holy fire proclaim it unto the ends of the earth!

The Home

A Prayer

MRS. A. C. MCPHERSON

Father! take home Thy child,
I have wandered lo! these many years
Beset by doubts and endless fears—
Take home Thy child.

I long to reach that Land;
There safe from sin and satan's snare
My hands shall palms of vict'ry bear,
In that blest land.

Father! the way is dark,
My path lies thru a barren land
Oh, let me feel Thy guiding hand—
Thru life's dark waste.

"Oh, Child! be patient still;
Thou weary and the way seem long
And drear; soon thou shalt dwell 'mid song
And rapturous cheer."

Knoll, Ohio.

Teach the Children God's Word

Children cannot retain the commandments of God in their minds and hearts if they have not heard them and had them deeply impressed upon their memories, says Dr. J. C. Boyd in United Presbyterian. The parents should read the Scriptures to their children, to those who are not able to read them for themselves, and to the whole family every morning and evening, in connection with their household worship. In the family, and at all other times as well, the word of God should be read with reverence and solemnity; the names of the divine Being should be pronounced in soft and solemn tones. The name of Him "whose name is above every name," the Lord Jesus Christ, is sometimes uttered in prayer and discourse, and even in the courts of the church, with a lightness which should never appear when the name of the Holy One is on our lips. "Holy and reverend is his name." God speaking to his servants does not address them in tones of thunder. His voice in the Scriptures is to us as to Elijah, "the still small voice."

"Teach them dilligently to thy children, and thou shalt talk of them when thou sittest

in the house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up." "Oh," said Salmasius, on his death-bed, "what time I have lost! Should God, in his mercy, grant me another year of life, I would spend all of it in reading David's Psalms and Paul's epistles."

The treasurer of Candace, queen of Ethiopia, returning to his far-off home in Abyssinia, after his visit to Jerusalem, whither he had gone to worship, was traveling over the sandy desert, reading the Scriptures. He read them diligently, and Philip, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, enabled him to get the truth as it is in Jesus into his heart. He thus found the Messiah, and went on his way rejoicing.

Too Much Help

That there are many people who need help is not to be doubted. That there are many people who are helped too much is equally true, tho the fact is not generally recognized. Too often boys and girls in the home grow up helpless because they are never taught to help themselves. It is not too much to say that the number of boys and girls in our homes who suffer from over much help is as large as the number that suffers for lack of help.

It is a safe rule to teach a child that what it can do itself it should not ask for help in the doing. This applies to the school life of children. Not those who have their problems solved for them, who never trouble their brains over knotty translations, are the boys who will make great and strong men, but those who early in life are taught to rely on their own resources, and to exercise independence of thought, are the boys who will give to this world what it did not have before, if such a thing is possible. This principle applies especially to works of charity and the development of Christian character.

Much of our charity is misdirected. It is far better to help a man on his feet and place him in a position where he can help himself, than to leave him helpless and feed him. To feed the starving poor in Cuba was a good work, but it was a better and more charitable work to stop the cause that led to such poverty and feed the starving until able to help themselves.

God's children are sometimes helped too much. It is not always best to carry a man's burdens for him, nor to bear his crosses. God gives each man a cross to bear, and to bear that cross is a necessary part of his discipline. To bear it for him might be an interference with the divine plan. He needs the crosses to make him stronger. Bearing the cross and the burden fit him for life's duties and responsibilities. Under their weight he grows and develops into the strongest, noblest and grandest character. Without them he might remain a dwarf. We should never complain therefore of a burden which is to us as wings. How then shall we help one another? We can give encour-

agement, inspiration, sympathy, comfort, and this as a rule is better than to carry another's cross. We can put new hope, life, and strength into the heart of him who has grown weary of his cross and thus help him carry his burden. It is far better to make the man stronger than to make the cross lighter.

The Place for Training

These words from one who has had large experience commend themselves to all, especially to those who are heads of families and upon whom is the responsibility of rearing children:

The home is the place for training, the school the place for instruction. Parents who expect the school to make up for the neglects in the home are apt to be sadly disappointed. It is the morality and religion that bud in the home which blossom in the school and bear fruit in life. When the young man sows his crop of wild oats, he usually lets the world reap only the harvest which the family cultivated. More and more are we obliged to emphasize the solidarity and responsibility of the family. It is far more true that the families make criminals than that society at large makes criminals. And whatever may be said of reforming our schools, our churches, our industries, and our politics, the beginning of national regeneration must be made in the family. There the life of the individual begins, there is planted the seed which the life unfolds, and there as nowhere else the character is determined for time and eternity. Families are so scattered in our day that the coffin may not stand where the cradle was rocked; but as the twig is bent the tree will grow, and many parents write the epitaphs on the tombstones of their children who survive them.

When the Church Paper Comes

There are still some people who think that they can do without the church paper, and yet be true to the church which supports them, says the Evangelical. (Make a note of that expression in passing. People usually pride themselves upon "supporting the church" when they attend its meetings and add their pennies—coppers or silver—to the common store. But separate them from the church which they "support" and—well, where are they spiritually or socially?)

Some of them, but very few, very few indeed, cannot afford to take the papers. In that case some rich brother's duty is clear. Most of them, however, will say that there is so much reading matter on hand as it is, that they really have no time nor taste for more. I myself, as a busy pastor, would find church papers coming in with surprising rapidity, so that copy after copy would be added to the evergrowing pile on my desk, waiting for quiet perusal after the first hasty glance at their contents. Yet I invariably found time to read them; and if I were obliged, from press of work, to cut down my supply of